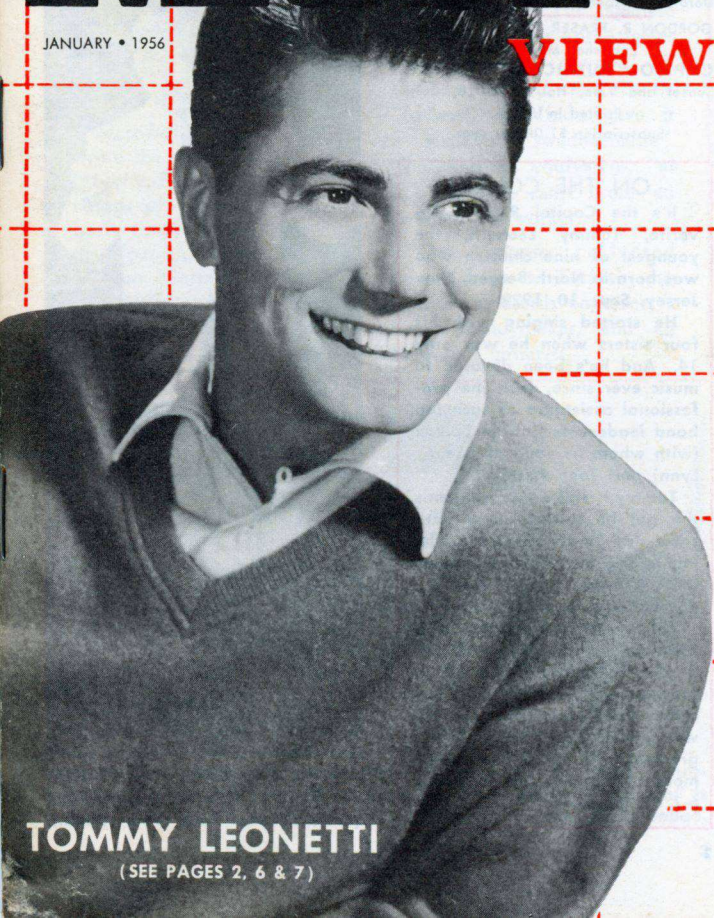


Music

JANUARY • 1956

VIEWS



TOMMY LEONETTI

(SEE PAGES 2, 6 & 7)

Music Views

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ON THE COVER

It's the Capitol Records favorite, Tommy Leonetti, the youngest of nine children who was born in North Bergen, New Jersey, Sept. 10, 1929.

He started singing with his four sisters when he was only 14. And he's been devoted to music ever since, with the professional assistance of such top band leaders as Charlie Spivak (with whom he sang as Tommy Lynn) and Tony Pastor.

Tommy is still single, contends the gal he settles down with some day "must be personable, intelligent, and have the same basic interests I enjoy, and she doesn't have to be beautiful."

Tommy looks on talent as a blessing and sincerely believes it should be regarded as a precious gift. Over 200 fan clubs throughout the country will attest that "Tommy's the greatest." If you'd like to see more of Tommy, flip to pages 6-7 of this issue.



Les Brown's newest for the Capitol label is "Sincerely Yours." Flip-side Band of Renown musically requests, "Take Back Your Mink."

Two and One-Half Year Search By Composer Produces 45 'Freedoms'

"The Freedom Song" speaks 45 languages, but in each tongue the message rings clear of "freedom." The song was played recently at the United Nations 10th Anniversary Concert held at UCLA.

Meredith Willson, who wrote the song, was aided by his wife, Rini, in the 45 translations of "freedom." It was fairly simple to come up with the Spanish, French, Italian, Russian, German, Norwegian and Portuguese words.

The search that lasted 2½ years started when they de-

cided to represent each tongue. An Armenian rugmaker supplied "hureyet." The Japanese Institute of West Los Angeles came up with "gee-you." A butcher provided the Icelandic "frelsee." A Hindu gave it in Sanskrit - "swadheenahtha." The Arabian equivalent, "al hoo reeeya", came from an Arabian oil worker.

The composer collected others from a Turkish dry cleaner, a Welsh engineer, a Greek candymaker, and an Hawaiian guitarist.



Capitol's Cues gather mikeside to make second record for label, "Charlie Brown" on the "A" side, "You're On My Mind" backside. "Brown" is up-tempo novelty with strange new vocal sounds, other song blues ballad.

MERLE TRAVIS' '16 TONS' TOOK EIGHT YEARS TO BECOME SMASH HIT

Tenn. Ernie Ford's Capitol Platter Alone Pushes Sales Over Million Mark In Record Four Weeks

Success sometimes is a long time coming.

When Merle Travis was told recently that his song, "Sixteen Tons", had passed the one million sales mark at Capitol Records in a record four weeks and had become one of the nation's hottest hit tunes in years, he mused, "Well, it's taken eight years"

The folk music star wrote "Sixteen Tons" back in 1947 when Capitol Records wanted an album of folk songs of the hills, but needed good songs for such an album. Merle offered to write some, with the promise that they would sound as authentic, Early American as he could make 'em.

The album was published with Merle playing his guitar and singing his own hurriedly-written "folk songs of the hills"

In the intervening years, Merle became a close friend and fishing companion of Tennessee Ernie Ford who,

at frequent intervals, sings Merle's songs on the Ford CBS radio and NBC-TV programs.

Recently, Ford resurrected the old "Sixteen Tons" song from the now-out-of-print album and sang it on his radio show. A deluge of mail prompted him to repeat it a few days later on his television show.

Then the mail really poured in literally *sixteen* tons of it Ford reported the phenomenon to Capitol Records and that company immediately scheduled a recording session for Ernie to do his version of the number. The record soared to success overnight and sold out as soon as it reached the music shops.

Travis isn't a newcomer to the ranks of the hit tune writers. He has more than 200 published songs to his credit, 190 of which were written by him alone and the remainder in collaboration with other tunesmiths.

He has enjoyed the fruits of six of his songs reaching and passing the million sales mark. All six, however, made the mark with several different record personalities doing the song. In the case of "Sixteen Tons", Tennessee Ernie's record alone did the trick. So, actually, Merle now has his first "one-record" million sales song.

His previous hits include "Divorce Me C.O.D.," "No Vacancy," "So Round, So Firm, So Fully Packed," "Cincinnati Lou," "Sweet Temptation," and "Smoke, Smoke, Smoke That Cigarette."

Merle got the inspiration for "Sixteen Tons" from his own early life in Kentucky, where his father was a coal miner.

Merle, himself, records for Capitol. He's seen at a recent record session in the adjoining photograph.

In addition to his records, he has been seen nationally on TV in Snader Telescriptions. He also appeared in the movie "From Here to Eternity" for Columbia Pictures. Additionally, he was the subject of a series of Encyclopedia Britannica educational films.



TOMMY LEONETTI



1

HANDSOME QUIET-MANNERED Tommy Leonetti is commanding new attention from popular music fans these days, if sales of his Capitol disk, "Heartless" coupled with "Sometime" are any indication.

The warm, gracious personality of this 26-year-old six-foot baritone has been developed throughout his music career, which has included stints with such well known musical aggregations as Charlie Spivak, Tony Pastor. His career, even though only just begun a few scant years ago, has been eventful and worthy of note. On these two pages are pictured some of the stepping stones along Tommy's road to success in the world of music.

1. Tommy with Dennis James, emcee of "Chance of a Lifetime" TV show, on which Tommy was a winner before signing with Capitol.



2



3



4

Popular Platter Personality

2. Tommy when he was known professionally as Tommy Lynn, back in 1946-47 with the Charlie Spivak band.

3. Irv "Mr. Chicago" Kup, syndicated columnist, presents Tommy with "Singer of the Year" award on behalf of the Chicago Publicity Club. Shortly before Tommy had headlined the Chicago Theater bill for two weeks, three months later was back for a second engagement.

4. Conducting the orchestra on Tommy's "Heartless" record date in Hollywood was Dennis Farnon.

5. The man behind the production of all of Leonetti's Capitol disks is Lee Gillette, who also directs the Dean Martin and Nat "King" Cole sessions, among others, for the same label.

6. Like many other entertainers, Tommy has donated his talents to worthy fund-raising functions, such as this Cerebral Palsy telethon in Milwaukee, pictured here.



6



5



Attention! We thought you'd be interested to know this lil cutie claims World War I hero, General John Pershing as her great grand-uncle. Her name's Lori Nelson and she play-acts at Warner Brothers.

● RELIGIOUS FILM SOUNDTRACK ALBUM

An unusual presentation of religious music is being produced by Criterion Records featuring the world famous Sistine Choir of Rome.

A high-fidelity album containing 10 selections chosen by the Gregorian Institute of America has been taken from the sound track of the two color films, "Christ Is Born" and "Christ Is Risen." These were filmed in St. Peter's Cathedral and the Sistine Chapel in Vatican by Television Productions Inc.

This is the first important soundtrack album of music from religious films.

Mitch Hamilburg of Television Productions Inc., who is responsible for making all the arrangements on these films, is currently paving the way for an American tour for the choir.

Authority of liturgical music, Dr. Eddison Von Ottenfeld, edited the tapes.

● LYRIST SHEEN

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen has written lyrics he has titled "Your Whole Heart" which he has put to a melody written by Fritz Kreisler, and which is the theme of his ABC television program, "Life Is Worth Living."



"The following program of uninterrupted music is presented ."



Singing nice and good as her names suggest is BernICE GOODen, on her first Capitol record release with the "coined" title, "Penny, Nickel, Dime, Quarter." More moola suggested flipside where Nuggets join singer. Don't forget change.

'Riot In Front of Candy Store'

THAT'S WHAT GLEASON SAYS GOT HIM STARTED IN SHOW BUSINESS

Jackie Gleason is a master artist in the field of comic characterizations, ranging from buffoonery to pathos. He also has won acclaim in the field of dramatic acting.

Gleason further has excelled in yet another of the art forms—music, which he has made a name for himself both as a composer and as a conductor, on the Capitol Records label.

Jackie was born in Brooklyn, Feb. 26, 1916, on Herkimer Street and Rockaway Avenue, and was brought up in other neighborhoods of that borough. When he was three, his brother, 14, died. When he was eight, his father, Herbert Gleason, an assistant auditor of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, mysteriously disappeared on his way home from work and was never seen or heard from again. And when Jackie was 16, he lost his mother, the only person who had consistently encouraged his youthful ambition for show business.

Before her death, while Jackie went to Public School

73 in Brooklyn, his Irish-born mother worked as a cashier for the subway system.

An early aptitude for dramatics enabled Gleason to win the leading role in the grammar school graduation play in 1929. That's when he discovered he loved show business and wanted to get into it.

Jackie was the only one of the family with theatrical leanings. When he is asked



MORE ABOUT JACKIE GLEASON

what got him started in show business, he replies, "Guess I was a riot in front of the candy store."

During the next few years he worked as a barker in a carnival, dare-devil driver in an auto circus and exhibition diver in the water follies.

When he played the Miami Club in Newark in 1935 for an eight-dollar fee, he never dreamed he would be there for nearly three years, during which the happy management increased his weekly stipend to \$75 a week.

Gleason also was a disc jockey at a radio station in Newark until he found the wee hours passed too slowly and invited his friends to the studio for dancing. The boss walked in, and that ended his career as a disc jockey.

Next, he toured the country playing vaudeville and night-clubs until 1940 when he was offered an engagement in New York at the then-famous Club 18, where movie mogul Jack Warner saw him and signed him for pictures. He did five movies in Hollywood.

After two years in the film

capitol, he returned to New York to appear in Olsen and Johnson's "Hellzapoppin'" and "Artists and Models."

Then came his first real bid to stardom. In 1945, he played the "sailor-on-the-loose" in the smash hit "Follow The Girls," opposite Gertrude Niesen. Jackie's stage plays also include "Keep Off the Grass," "Along Fifth Avenue," and in summer stock, "Rosalie," "Rio Rita" and "The Show-Off."

He made his television bow in the lead role of "The Life of Riley." The "Cavalcade of Stars" followed and Gleason went to the top in comedy.

Gleason married Genevieve Halford in 1936. They have two daughters, Geraldine, 16, and Linda, 14.

Jackie has a fondness for Italian cuisine, especially Lobster Diablo, and Chinese food. He owns some 350 books on the subject of psychic phenomena and is well read in this field. His favorite serious music is Beethoven, his favorite popular tune is "Tenderly," the background for his "Poor Soul" sketches on his CBS-TV shows.



It was one of Hollywood's infamous smoggy days recently when workmen poured the last carts of concrete on the roof of the 13th and top floor of Capitol Records' fabulous new international home, nearing completion just a few steps from the world-famous intersection of Hollywood and Vine, marked by the buildings in the hazy background. Shortly after this photograph was made, the last of hundreds of tons of concrete had been poured. Only interior furbishing, decorating remains to be done.

MARGARET TRUMAN DESERTS CONCERT STAGE FIRST TIME SINCE 1947

*As Radio Celebrity She's Forced to Rise Early,
Like Father, Former Chief Executive*

For the first time in her career Margaret Truman is devoting her full time to radio and television appearances this season, leaving the concert stage behind at least temporarily. This is the first season since 1947 that she will not make any concert tours.

As hostess of "Weekday" on NBC radio Margaret, together with her co-host Mike Wallace, introduces guests and conducts interviews on women's service information, features and news.

Her activities on "Weekday" have forced Miss Truman to adopt some new living habits. Unlike her famous father, former President Harry S. Truman, Margaret dislikes getting up early in the morning. Initiated to late hours during her concert tours, she likes to attend the theatre, concerts, the opera and other functions in the evening and retire fairly late.

"But that's all changed now," she says, "It's early to

bed and early to rise for Margaret, and believe me, it isn't easy."

Although "Weekday" offers Miss Truman new fields of activity, radio is by no means new to her. She participated in radio classes during her



school years and made her professional debut during a nationwide broadcast with the Detroit Symphony in March of 1947. In August of that same year, she gave her second public singing performance at the Hollywood Bowl in a concert conducted by Eugene Ormandy and that Fall went on her first concert tour.

During the 1950-51 season, Miss Truman made a number of guest appearances on NBC's "The Big Show" starring Tallulah Bankhead. It was on these broadcasts that she first revealed her talent at comedy, and received some expert coaching from two of the top pros in the field, comedian Fred Allen and comedy writer Goodman Ace. She subsequently performed on many top network comedy and variety programs with such stars as Jimmy Durante, Milton Berle, Martha Raye, Spike Jones, Kate Smith, Paul Winchell and Enzo Pinza.

Born in Independence, Mo., on Feb. 17, 1924, Margaret attended Chrisman High School there and later graduated from Gunston Hall and George Washington University in Washington, D.C.



Big kids will be interested in this jumbo-sized high chair. The Brothers Warner tell us the baby sitter goes with it. She's Bob Montgomery's daughter, Elizabeth.

● BROWN PREXY

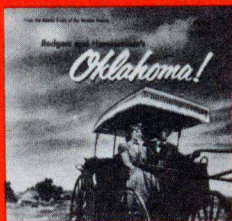
Dance Orchestra Leaders of America have named Les Brown president for the second year.

Tommy Dorsey was elected as first vice president, and Willard Alexander, second veepee. Freddy Martin was voted secretary and Lawrence Welk treasurer.

The organization was established for the purpose of keeping music danceable in the nation's ballrooms.

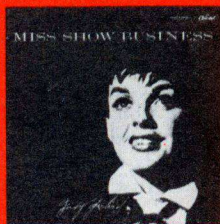
BEST SELLERS to make 1956 a record year!

SHOW MUSIC



OKLAHOMA!
Motion Picture Cast
In hi-fi, from the film's soundtrack, the music of America's best-loved musical play, performed by a brilliant array of stars. Album 595

MISS SHOW BUSINESS
Judy Garland
Mixing laughter and tears, Judy sings the hit show songs from her fabulous career—for the first time in one hi-fi package! Album 676



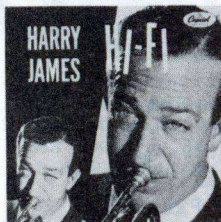
VOCAL

DUET
June Christy and Stan Kenton
Recorded for the first time as a duet—Stan and June with a fine, stylish program of songs. Album 656

IN THE WEE SMALL HOURS
Frank Sinatra
Frank's intimate balladeering about the loneliest hours of all: from midnight to dawn. Album 581

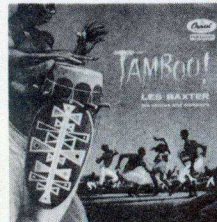
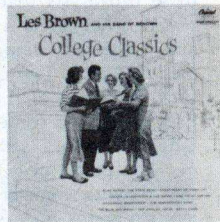


BIG BANDS



HARRY JAMES IN HI-FI
Harry's horn of plenty, his king-sized crew and vocalist Helen Forrest in a hi-fi parade of his top hits. Album 654

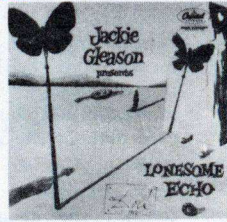
COLLEGE CLASSICS
Les Brown
The Band of Renown plays campus favorites romantic as a graduation prom, rousing as the season's big game. Album 657



INSTRUMENTAL VARIETIES

TAMBOU!
Les Baxter
Exotic music featuring fanciful arrangements, tantalizing drum beats, and the lustrous sound of many strings. Album 655

LONESOME ECHO
Jackie Gleason
The Gleason strings, enriched by exotic domras, mandolins, and the haunting oboe d'amour. Album 627

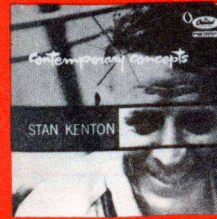


LISTENING MUSIC



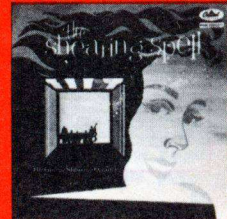
ROMANTIC JAZZ
Jackie Gleason
The caressing orchestral music Jackie's famous for, sparked by an easy-swinging beat. Album 568

MUSIC, MARTINIS AND MEMORIES
Jackie Gleason
Music that is frankly sentimental, weaving dreams and recalling precious memories. Album 509



CONTEMPORARY CONCEPTS
Stan Kenton
Stan and band thoroughly explore standards like Yesterday and Cherokee with the help of Bill Holman arrangements. Album 666

SHEARING SPELL
George Shearing
Quiet, tasty modern jazz by an inventive group that includes vibes, bongos, and timbale. Album 648



Introducing

MEG MYLES

Curvaceous, redheaded Meg Myles has found her claim to fame in her sultry voice. Not too unusual in Hollywood is the singer gone dramatic, but in Miss Myles' case it was just the opposite. She trained in dramatics at the College of the Pacific at Stockton, Calif., where she appeared in numerous staged dramas. "A for Alonzo" was the one that attracted the attention of a Hollywood actor's agent.

After she had been out of college for awhile she found herself working in her father's record store. Selling records over the counter was as near to the music industry as Meg ever thought she'd be.

When her trip to Hollywood didn't manifest a film contract she again went to work selling records. This time it was at Hollywood's famous "Music City," Sunset and Vine. Meanwhile, she persisted in her dramatic efforts and finally landed dramatic

parts in "Battle Cry," "Dragnet," "New York Confidential" and "The Brass Ring."

Meg first sang a bit when she was an insignificant part of a night club duo starring Duke Mitchell. These few bars demanded immediate attention from all who heard her. Personal Manager Red Doff signed her to a contract and soon she was singing "The Phenix City Blues," the title tune for "The Phenix City Story," as well as acting in a featured spot in the film.

Her performance in the picture led to a successful engagement at the Royal Nevada Hotel, Las Vegas. An extensive night club tour followed. And recently she signed a new contract with Capitol Records.

Although born in Seattle, Wash. (on Nov. 13) Meg was reared in Tracy, Calif., where her family moved when she was 10. After completing high school in Tracy, Meg attended College of the Pacific.

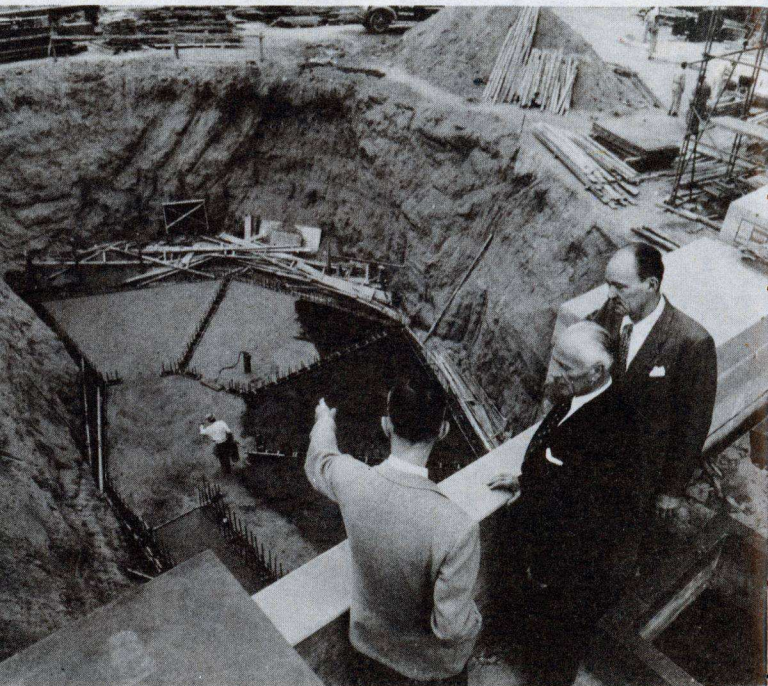
MISS MYLES' FIRST SIDES FOR CAPITOL

"Will You Shed a Tear For Me?"

coupled with "Sing On, Baby"



Singing star of movie "The Phenix City Story," Meg Myles, a new Capitol artist, is thumbnail biographically introduced on the opposite page.



The largest, most elaborate, and first underground reverberation chambers (commonly referred to as echo chambers) ever constructed anywhere in the world have been installed at the rear of the unique new concrete cylindrical building to be known as The Capitol Tower, the international headquarters of Capitol Records, in the heart of Hollywood, California. Four separate chambers, none with any parallel surfaces, are shown under construction here. Inspecting the project are (left to right) Ed Uecke, Capitol chief electronics engineer; James Bayless, vice president in charge of engineering for the label; and Mike Rettinger, outstanding acoustical expert of Hollywood. From these cells various degrees of echo will electronically be mixed into artists' recording sessions. When completed the chambers will be buried under earth, a parking lot installed.

● REVIVED HIT

Detroit deejay Marty McNeely pulled the Cap platter of "What It Was, Was Football" by Andy Griffith out of his files a few weeks ago and decided to revive it for the football season.

Within the week his switchboard was buzzing up a storm with requests for the humorous piece. Word spread fast, as a result of McNeely's idea, and soon it became the No. 1 Capitol EP in the Detroit area.

Griffith, by the way, is the toast of Broadway in the legit "No Time For Sergeants."



"Hi there. I'm sure you'll like my newest Capitol release. It's called 'Steel Guitar.' Give it a spin won't you?"—Vicki Young.

NO "ORCH."

For the first time in many weeks an "orchestra" was playing on the bandstand of the famous Hollywood Palladium in Movietown this month.

In November it was Eddy Grady and The Commanders, followed by Harry James and His Music Makers, then Russ Morgan and his Music In the Morgan Manner. Next booking was for Les Brown and His Band of Renown.

The word "orchestra" didn't appear on the marquee of the Palladium until this month: "Luis Arcaez and His Orchestra."

● CHEAP PLAYER

Record and handcrank phonograph weighing only ten ounces and produced for about 50 cents was introduced recently by David Sarnoff, board chairman of RCA-NBC.

The miniature player and 78 rpm record were not designed for commercial purposes. It is hoped that it will be another means of communication through the Iron and Bamboo Curtains, in addition to the "shower of leaflets."

The phonograph consists of a base, turntable and radiator plus a separately attached crank.

for the record



Introduced on the Capitol label this month is Lonnie Sattin in "Your Home Can Be a Castle" and "Trapped." Suggest you keep your eye on him.



Margaret Whiting wishes you a Happy New Year with a brand new Capitol disk, "I Love a Mystery" which is coupled with "Bidin' My Time" backside.



It should prove illuminating to know that for some distinctively different piano playing Capitol has a "Ben Light At the Eighty-Eight" album.



Susan Hayward sings in the new MGM album from the soundtrack of the film, "I'll Cry Tomorrow." Here she looks like she can't wait till then.

Whitmore's 'Solo' Is Compelling Story Of Jazz Pianist Virgil Jones

In "Solo," recently written by Chicago-born Stanford Whitmore and published by Harcourt, Brace, the author winds a compelling story around a jazz pianist, Virgil Jones who calls himself "the last individual in the world."

A brilliant unknown to begin with, Jones steadily refuses to submit to the generally-accepted reactions and patterns of living, even after he has become the national hero of jazz. His clash with society and influence he unconsciously exerts on those he meets are sensitively and logically presented by the writer.

The plot is set in present-day Chicago and involves a disk jockey, a powerful "behind-the-scenes" racketeer who virtually controls the jazz world, a famous, established piano player who through Jones finally rearranges his own way of thinking about his career and his loyal girl friend, and a music shop owner who also emerges an enlightened man as the result of knowing Jones.

Whitmore, obviously a music scholar, writes with authority and heart and simplicity. Though mythical, Virgil Jones leaves a profound impression and lives long after the book has been stored. M.H.



Showing some of his "congratulations, best wishes" wires to songbirds Toni Arden (left) and Jaye P. Morgan on the occasion of the opening of his new Club Valentine on Manhattan's east side is N.Y. d.j., Art Ford.



In a further effort to bolster its roster of girl singers, Capitol last month signed up the two singers pictured here, Kathy Lloyd at left, and Carole Bennett, as well as Meg Myles and Bernice Gooden, whose photos can be seen elsewhere in this issue. Be sure to see future issues of *Music Views* for information on the new record releases for each girl.

● VICTOR GETS RICH

RCA Victor has corraled 19-year-old Dave Rich for the label's country and western artists roster. The Central City, Ky. youth, will record in Nashville.

● BURNS-ALLEN ON WAX

George Burns and Gracie Allen have etched the title song from Burns' autobiography, "I Love Her, That's Why," for the New Disk label, a subsidiary of Simon and Schuster. Backing is by Frank Comstock orchestra and was writ-

ten by Al Hoffman and Dick Manning.

● 'X' TO VIK

The new year brings about a record change with the company name change to Vik Records from Label X. Label X was established in 1954 as a subsidiary for RCA Victor.

The new diskery name of Vik was decided upon because of its name similarity to Victor. Under the new name the company will record only in the pop field.



Flanked by the flesh and blood likeness of Jack Bailey, emcee of "Queen For a Day" on the right, and the photographic likenesses of Capitol Records artists Les Paul and Mary Ford, Jackie Gleason, Nat "King" Cole, Stan Kenton, and Ray Anthony is 14-year-old Miss Josephine Elevato of Los Angeles. She was recently voted "Miss Teen Queen" on the "QFAD" radio-TV show. Part of her loot included 25 of Capitol's top LP albums.

● LEWIS' 8

Shortly before the record ban in 1947 Ted Lewis cut 24 sides. Decca Records took 16 of the tunes Lewis independently recorded.

Now, over eight years later, Mercury will release the remaining eight sides, which have been in Ted Lewis' possession since the frantic session.

"September Song" and Lewis' fifth version of "St. Louis Blues" are among those to be released by Mercury as an L.P.

● JACKIE AS 'POPS'?

Jackie Gleason is being considered for the lead role in a new feature biopic, "The King of Jazz," Paul Whiteman.

Aside from his prowess as a comic, he is also well known as a batoneer on numerous Capitol mood music albums, some of which are constantly on the best selling charts.

GOOD QUESTION

A Hollywood wag relates this one:

A singer informed her friend she had insured her voice for \$10,000. The friend's rejoinder was, "Well, what did you do with the money?"

GROOVY SUPPORT

Although Hoagy Carmichael would like to come up with another "Stardust," he told columnist Hedda Hopper the original would support him in his old age. More than 200 recordings have been made of the song.

● DECCA'S PICTUROLA

Decca Records has announced its new Picturola, featuring a precision-made optical device which flashes color patterns on a screen, the patterns varying as the record spins and in accordance with changing volume. The three-speed changer will retail for \$69.95.

● BENNETT ON BRYANT

Bryant Records, a new recording company, has been formed by society band leader and tenor sax man Phil Bennett, who is blind. His first LP under the new label is a group of ten standard tunes. He formerly cut for the Regent label.

● KITT MUSICAL

New musical written for Broadway is titled "Jazz Getaway," starring Eartha Kitt. Script was written by New York Daily News columnist Bob Sylvester and will be produced by Ethel Reiner.

GOING TO DOGS

RCA Victor has released a series of four all time hit tunes, recorded in novel renditions by a Swedish vocal quintet. The selections "Oh Susanna," "Jingle Bells," "Three Blind Mice," and "Pat-a-Cake." The artists, five dogs with educated barks.

● RIDDLE SCORE

Nelson Riddle, Capitol recording artist and Frank Sinatra's musical director for his Capitol recordings, composed and conducted the score for the picture "Johnny Concho." Frank Sinatra stars in the film, which will be released by United Artists.

● NEW DANCE

One leg does the waltz while the other does the foxtrot and it adds up to a new dance called the Merengue according to Percy Faith. Faith, who conducts his own arrangement of "Tropical Merengue," got the music from the Dominican Republic. This area is famous for merengue festivals.

● PAT KIRBY TO DECCA

Pat Kirby, gal singer on Steve Allen's NBC-TV "Tonight" show, has been signed to a new recording contract with Decca.

● COLE-HEATH

A date in Texas will start off Ted Heath's band tour of the United States. The English band will begin the extensive tour in April. Capitol Records' Nat "King" Cole will tour with the band.

As part of a reciprocal deal, the Stan Kenton Orchestra will go to England. Other similar band exchanges are in the works with Johnny Dankworth, Jack Parnell, Vic Lewis, Duke Ellington and Count Basie.

● 4 ON WING

Mercury's subsidiary, Wing Records, has signed four new artists to its roster.

New talent includes Patti Jerome, jazz trumpeter Nat Adlerly and Jimmy Palmer and his orchestra, otherwise known as Jimmy "Dancin' Shoes" Palmer.

Fourth pact made by the new company is with the Wilder Brothers, a duo. The Wilders were coached by Gene Byram.

● SUMAC TOUR

Yma Sumac, currently on a world concert tour will audition talent wherever she makes appearances and will film their specialties on the spot. The results will be her own television show, which she will produce and star in titled "Toast of the World."



Promising to attract considerable amount of spinners' attention is newest disk out by Pee Wee Hunt on Capitol, which includes novel treatment of semi-standard, "Lullaby of Birdland." It's done Dixieland style.



Jimmy Wakely and Gloria Wood, at right, have been teamed as Decca artists by the label's artists-repertoire chief, Sonny Burke, left.



Film star and cafe entertainer Estelita prepares to play her first wax, on Real label, "Wait-in' For the Robert E. Lee." Good.



Recorded in England were newest sides by Capitol's Al Martino, "Journey's End"/"Close to Me." Norrie Paramor conducted the date.



New Orleans-born Bonnie Davis made her wax debut on Decca with "Pepper Hot Baby" which label paired with "For Always, Darling."

● MORE DECCA C&W

A number of new country and western artists have been added to the Decca stable of entertainers.

Recent additions include Roy Acuff, Jimmy Wakely, Jimmy and Johnny, Kenny Roberts, Woody Mercer, Red Garrett, Billy Mize, Roy Drusky, and Bobby Helms.

● B. MAY, ACTOR

Bandleader Billy May has been assigned an acting role in "Nightmare." He will portray the part of a bandleader in the Pine-Thomas-Shane production for United Artists. This is the Capitol Records artist's first acting role.



Skeets McDonald allows as to how "I Got a New Field to Plow" as his latest Capitol disk. Back is "Baby, I'm Lost Without You."

● BEA'S WAX

New disk by Bea Lillie is to be released under the British Decca and London labels is entitled "An Evening With Bea Lillie." It is based on the numbers in her current show, with Eadie and Rach doing the background. Miss Lillie may do a nitery stint in Vegas in February.

● MACS TO WAX

A Canadian vocal quartet, Terry and the Macs, have been added to the new ABC-Paramount label. Others included in the new company's roster include Eydie Gorme, Annette Warren, Dick Duane, Rex Trailer, Bernie Wayne and the Trio Shmeed.



Dean Martin appears to be seriously contemplating that "Memories Are Made of This," title of his newest smash Cap success.

● 2 SUIT TUXEDO

The Tuxedo Record company has acquired two new vocal interests, bluesman Leroy (Potato) Christy, and the Capitol City Stars, a gospel group from Philadelphia.

● 'DUFFY' DISK

"Duffy's Tavern Re-Visited" is the title of a new LP album by Sunset Records. It is made up of the four best "Duffy's Tavern" shows of past years. Ed Gardner is "Archie."

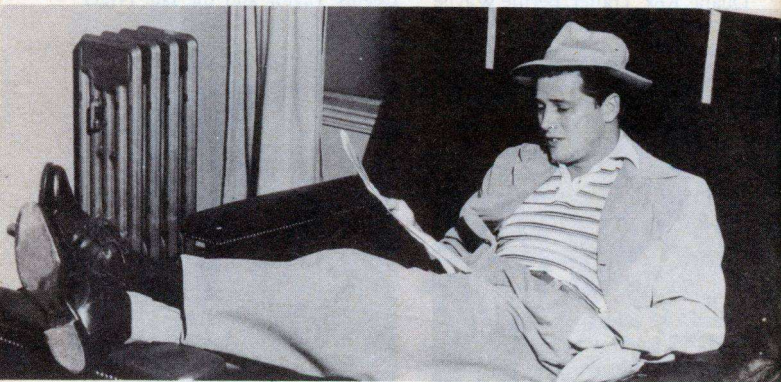
Guests that appeared on these shows and who will also be heard on the disc are George Raft, Deems Taylor and the late Nigel Bruce.



Marquee Records introduces new artist, Kay Cee Jones, singing "The Japanese Farewell Song," backed by "I Wore Dark Glasses."

DENELS MUSIC SHOP
6634 HOLLYWOOD BLVD.
HO. 9-8121 Open Evenings

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Rare photograph: Gordon MacRae in lounge at Capitol recording studios in Hollywood taking time out to relax from his busy schedule of picture and platter making and TV appearances to run over a new song. Minutes after this picture was made, MacRae was cutting his two newest sides for the Cap label, "Fate" on topside, "Never Before and Never Again" on back.